

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4653
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006
NEW VARIETIES OF BAJRA
Oram Shri JuaI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed some new varieties of bajra for rural dry land regions of the country;
- (b) if so, the dry land regions where such varieties of bajra has been developed;
- (c) whether any such variety has been developed in the drought-prone areas in any State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has recently identified two new Bajra hybrids namely GHB 715 and GHB 719 for growing in rainfall scanty areas (less than 400 mm) of north-western parts of Rajasthan, parts of Haryana and Gujarat.
 - (b) & (c): These hybrids have been developed in drought prone areas of Gujarat at Millet Research Centre, Jamnagar under Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh.
 - (d) Hybrid GHB 715 has an average yield of 2448 kg/ha and it has shown high level of downy mildew and drought resistance. It has synchronous tillering, bold grain size and attractive seed colour that would fetch better market price.
- The hybrid GHB 719 has an average yield of 2406 kg/ha with high level of downy mildew and drought resistance.
- Both the above hybrids mature within 70 to 75 days and produce good dry fodder yield in the range of 45 to 50 q/ha.